

FRENCH COLUMNS MOVE CLOSE TO FRONTIER OF BELGIUM

Communique given out at 3 P. M. was as follows:

First—On our left wing, after having repulsed all of the enemy's attacks, we have resumed the offensive at several points. At other points we are well maintaining our positions.

Second—In the center there is nothing worthy of mention as far as the Argonne. In the Argonne we have driven back the enemy toward the north, the eastern part of the Woëvre district we are making progress, but very slowly.

Third—On our right wing (Lorraine and the Vosges) there is nothing new.

SAYS FRENCH RETIRED.

Berlin Announces Failure of New Encircling Movement.

Berlin, via wireless, by way of Saville, L. 1, October 4.

In an official statement issued today the German General Staff claims that it has repulsed the French offensive in the Argonne, and that the French have been driven back to the line of the Meuse. It is stated that the French are now completely invested and Thionville, an important strategic point, occupied.

It is also asserted that a new French encircling movement on the German right wing of the front line in France has been repulsed and that the French are being ejected from their strong positions south of Roze. The French army from Toul are declared to have been repulsed with heavy loss.

The War Office characterizes as an "independent lie" the Bordeaux report which alleged that the German General Staff had given an order to give no quarter to the French whether armed or unarmed and that the French have captured an Austrian motor battery on the Meuse line.

DOOR SHUT ON GERMANS.

Allies Cut Off Retreat Along the Invading Line.

By H. M. TOMLINSON.

Special Correspondent of The Sun and the London Daily Telegraph.

FRANCE, Oct. 4.—From what I have learned I am able to say that the French have repulsed the German offensive in the Argonne, and that the French have been driven back to the line of the Meuse. It is stated that the French are now completely invested and Thionville, an important strategic point, occupied.

But the French were quicker, and with the help of railways they prepared a surprise for Gen. von Kluck. The impregnable British position around Soissons was the hinge of a huge door which was being closed against the exit of the German army.

Variety at Neve and Roze the Germans have thrown their strength against this closing door, but, as at Roze, they have been thrown back.

As the Germans moved north and tested the way west they discovered this barrier still moving in against them. The end of the barrier is now close to the front.

I cannot say that the German line through Valenciennes, Cambrai and St. Quentin has yet been cut, but of an official statement it is announced that fact it would not surprise me. They are entrenched there, no doubt, and will be difficult to move.

In any case that was home, the way the Germans came is certainly so narrowed now that it would allow, so to speak, an exit only in single file. There is left for the Germans the line of the Meuse through Dinant and Namur in the general direction through Luxembourg.

SAYS GERMANS LOST 1,000,000.

British Expert Thinks German Commanders Can't Handle Situation.

London, Oct. 4.—Col. R. N. Maude, author of "The Evolution of Strategy," writing in the Times, estimates the German losses in the two theatres of war so far at 1,000,000 men killed, wounded and missing.

Col. Maude criticizes the conduct of the German campaign, saying that "every tactical doubt arises to the commander of the most high command and his entourage, diplomatic and administrative, to handle the whole problem of the nation behind them, which neither ignorance nor desire can any longer ignore." The military critic says:

"For the last ten days every telegram and letter from the front shows the increasing demoralization of the German staff and the growing want of executive ability in the control of troops. The whole situation of the army has in fact grown monstrous."

"They began the war with organized troops totalling some four million men, and behind these organized units lay an intricate mass of soldiers, King's and Imperial, practically without training, and for whom no framework of officers or non-commissioned officers and staff existed."

"More than half their organized units are held by the Russians, hence at the outset they cannot have kept more than two million really efficient fighters, and the British and French, of these, up to date, they cannot have lost less than 400,000 in killed and wounded, and assuming that their losses from illness on the march, straggling, footsore men and so forth are greater per day than in the far shorter marches and less sustained efforts during the first six weeks of 1914, they must have lost well over half a million men already, making a total reduction in their numbers of about one million men."

"I do not, therefore, believe it possible that, including Austrians and Bavarians, they can muster 750,000 men under arms at any given moment to defend their 250 miles of front in France, say 3,000 men to the mile, and these are of a very heterogeneous character."

TO BE TRIED FOR FALSE NEWS.

Proceedings Against Several Paris Editors Are Ordered.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—The press bureau has issued a request to the newspapers to be very strict in printing only correct news and also to avoid publishing uncorroborated lists of wounded for reasons affecting the families of the soldiers.

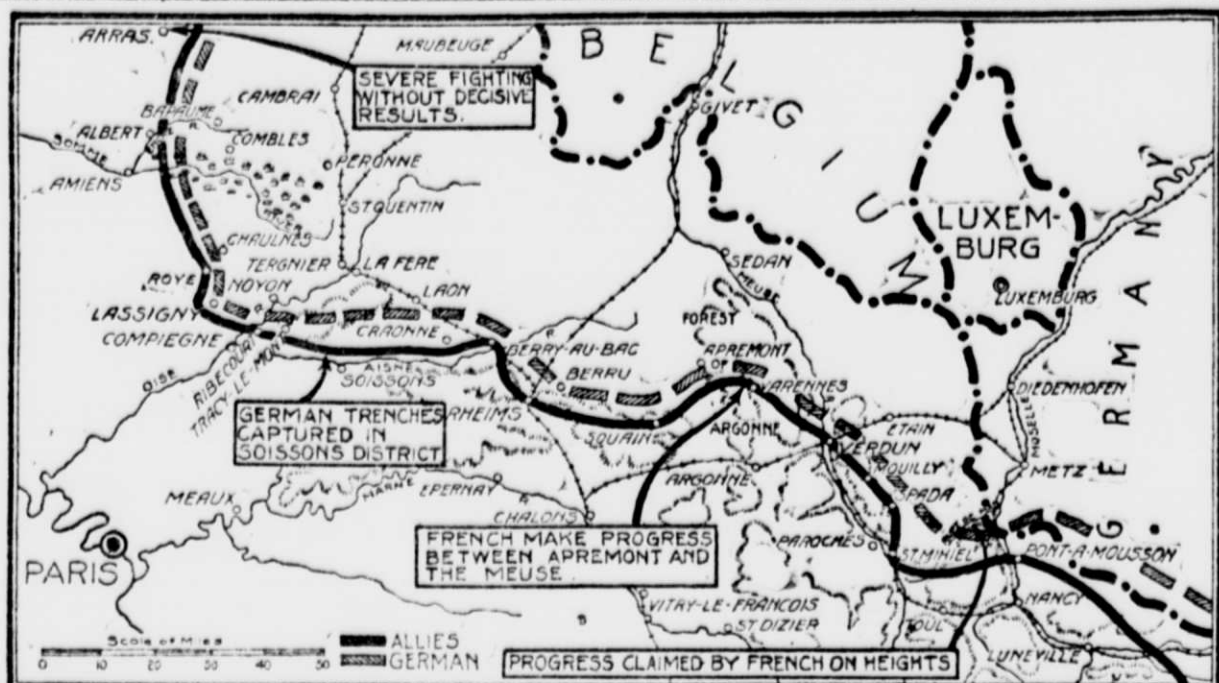
As the result of an inquiry recently opened Gen. Gallieni, the military governor of Paris, has decided to take proceedings against certain editors for the dissemination of false news.

SHOOT INTERPRETERS AS SPIES.

Germans Said to Kill French Soldiers With British Troops.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—It is learned here that the Germans are shooting French soldiers acting as interpreters with the British troops. The Germans treat them as spies. The interpreters retain their French uniforms, a marked contrast to the British khaki and breeches that they are easily picked out.



The severest fighting, according to the reports from Paris yesterday, was in the neighborhood of Arras, the most northerly point of the battle line. It is, however, still without decisive results. This engagement is the result of the strong offensive movement of the allies to crush back the German right and get control of their railway communication with Belgium and the north.

The allies made a decided gain west of Rheims in capturing strongly entrenched positions of the Germans in the district of Soissons. In the district east of Rheims the French made progress from Apremont to the Meuse; while in the Woëvre, further to the south, they succeeded again in capturing favorable positions along the Rupt-de-Mad, a tributary of the Moselle.

CHILD BOMB VICTIM KNITS FOR SOLDIERS

Says She Is Content to Lose Her Leg for France—Raise Fund for Her.

By H. M. TOMLINSON.

Special Correspondent of The Sun and the London Daily Telegraph.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—A visitor who went to see Denise Cartier, the thirteen-year-old girl who was injured by a bomb dropped by a German aeroplane two weeks ago, found her knitting jerseys for soldiers. The surgeons had amputated one leg above the knee. She said with unaffected courage:

"If I have been courageous I am sure any French child would have been the same. I am content to lose my leg for France."

The mother of the child, who was sitting by her bedside, said to the visitor: "I have no son and my husband is past the mobilization age. I thought myself beyond the reach of trouble."

Subscriptions for the benefit of Denise are being received by the newspapers. Many children have sent 100 francs. The Duchess de Tallery, formerly Anna Gould, has sent 200 francs (\$40) to the fund.

WELLINGTON AND NEY ALLIES.

Descendants of Waterloo Opponents Work Together Now.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—Sons of the houses of Wellington, the victor of Waterloo, and Ney, Napoleon's famous marshal, are working together at British headquarters in France.

Arthur Meyer, editor of the Gaulois, remarking in that paper today how alliances change with time, says that while taking luncheon recently at Larnie's restaurant he met Lord Wellington, a great-grandson of the Duke of Wellington. Lord Wellington was going to Buz, whence he intended to fly to the British headquarters for work with the aviation corps.

Acting as interpreter at Sir John French's headquarters is Charles Ney, Duke of Riching, great-grandson of Marshal Ney, who paid with his life for his loyalty to Napoleon in "the Hundred Days." Rightly or wrongly, the Duke of Wellington has been blamed for permitting the Bourbons to put Ney to death.

"Thus," says M. Meyer, "the descendants of the two opponents at Waterloo will work in this campaign side by side."

NAPLES SOCIALISTS PRO-WAR.

Declare They Are Not Opposed to Italy's Participation.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

ROME, Oct. 4.—Despatches from Naples say that the Socialists of that city have voted to declare themselves as not opposed to Italy's participation in the war.

Italy is spending \$10,000,000 on winter outfits for her troops. The Italian army is now quite ready for any eventuality.

CROWN PRINCE BURNED TOWN.

Clermont Destroyed at His Order.

Paris Newspaper Asserts.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—The Gaulois says there is unimpeachable evidence that the German Crown Prince personally ordered the burning of the picturesque town of Clermont-en-Artois after it had been flooded with gasoline.

The paper says that when the Crown Prince was compelled to retire from the town he spared only the house where he had been staying and the hospital for the sick, the superior of which lived at his feet and begged that her pensioners be saved.

M. HANOTAUX'S SON WOUNDED.

He Also Is Taken Prisoner by the Germans.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—The son of Gabriel Hanotaux has been wounded and taken prisoner.

M. Deloncle's son, who was wounded and captured, has recovered and has been removed to a German segregation camp.

MACMONNIES AIDS WOUNDED.

American Sculptor Adds Ambulance to His Hospital.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—Frederick Macmonnies, the American sculptor, who has installed a hospital in his studio at Giverny, in the Department of the Eure, has purchased an ambulance of his own with which he is attending the French wounded.

BELGIAN MOTHER, BEREFT, REPROACHES THE KAISERIN

Her Son Got No Iron Cross and She Cannot Nurse Him—"Did You Really Feel Proud" of Joachim? She Asks.

By H. M. TOMLINSON.

Special Correspondent of The Sun and the London Daily Telegraph.

ANTWERP, Sept. 23.—A remarkable letter, headed "An Open Letter to the German Empress," and signed "A Belgian Mother," appears in the Metropole this evening. The following is a translation:

"Madame, I read in the newspapers that your son Joachim has returned to Berlin wounded, that you went out to meet him, and that you regarded with pride the Iron Cross pinned on his breast. I also, madame, have a son at the war. He was wounded as yours was. But he has not been brought back to me. I have not been able to take him in. I have even spent three weeks praying to God for him, not knowing whether he lives. He has not fought, thank God, under the same colors as your son. But as wife and mother, I can understand the joy you must have felt at seeing your son again alive."

"I feel no bitterness against your soldiers for having wounded my son on the battlefield. It is the fortune of war, but I feel that it is in my poor Belgium that your son has fought and, without doubt, held command. It is here, with an armed horde devoted to rapine, to murder, to the uttermost length of the most heinous horrors, that he has earned his Iron Cross."

"Therefore, madame, did you feel so proud of seeing him as you are said to have felt? Did he not die a terrible death? And, unless you were unaware of the cry of the beasts of hell in our country, among which Prince Joachim has fought, did you not know that you assured yourself that that Iron Cross bore no stain, that it was in honor of a soldier's deeds and could cover up no responsibility in the crimes of which my country has been the victim at the hands of your people?"

"Does it appear to you as likely that a single German officer, and your son more than any other, can escape before God and before history the responsibility for a joint work which has been consummated for several weeks, methodically and without mercy, in all parts of my country at once?"

"This Cross, then, ought it not to inspire you with a little terror beside the Germans who were massing a large force toward the southeast. Shortly afterward a cable bulletin used by the Belgians to control artillery fire was made the target of German aerial guns. Protected by field artillery German engineers attempted to throw pontoons across the Nethe, but the Belgians from an advantageous position concentrated their gun fire on the pontoons and destroyed them one by one."

King Albert Sees Fight.

The Germans persisted in bridge building, but eventually were driven back with heavy loss. Despatches from Antwerp mention King Albert as having been an observer of the successful defense of the Nethe. The Germans are reported to have lost heavily.

The attack upon Antwerp was continued today with unrelenting violence, but the greater part of the first line of defense is intact and the Germans have been unable to threaten seriously the second line. Their most furious bombardment has been against Fort Waelhem and Wavre-St. Catherine, but there is no reason to believe that either of these forts has been reduced. The Belgians have been reduced to a small number of men, but they are determined to hold out as long as possible.

At Duffel the Germans were so severely handled by the Belgian artillery that they sent a flag of truce to the Belgian commander asking for an armistice of two hours in which to collect the dead and wounded. Fearing a ruse, the Belgian commander declined.

The Belgian Minister here has received despatches from Antwerp denying the truth of the German report that three of Antwerp's outer fortresses have fallen and that the city is completely encircled. The Minister reports that Fort Waelhem is greatly damaged, but is holding out.

Belgian Field Forces Active.

It is also denied that the German attack upon Antwerp has forced the Belgians to give up their efforts to cut German communications near Brussels and Ghent. The Belgians are fighting with unimpaired spirit. While concentrating a great force at Antwerp, they have kept in the field numerous small columns of infantry and cavalry and are continuing to harass the Germans with raids in which motor quick-fires are used to great effect.

News from the southern provinces seems to indicate that the Germans are pressing hard for a retreat from France. While their armies have been resting along the Somme and the Aisne, their engineers in Belgium have been completing vast lines of earthworks marked by concrete beds for field mortars.

ALBERT KIND TO HIS MEN.

Posts Letter for Soldier Who Was Writing to Mother.

London, Oct. 4.—An English woman at Ghent in a private letter tells of an incident illustrating King Albert's thoughtfulness for his soldiers.

The King, she says, saw one of his soldiers writing a letter and asked to whom he was writing. The soldier replied that he was writing to his mother. Thereupon the King offered to take the letter and post it and said so.

GERMAN SPIES BLAMED.

Fall of Namur Partly Due to Information About Defences.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

London, Oct. 4.—German spies crippled the defense of Namur at a most critical time and brought about the downfall of that fortress. A correspondent of the Times says that when the Belgian commander at Namur sought to bring troops from other forts to strengthen the defense of the main forts he found that the underground telephone system had been destroyed. This forced the evacuation of the stronghold and the remnants had to fight their way out, losing very heavily. Only about 12,000 out of 25,000 escaped.

Previously the German spies had given such information to the attackers that the latter were informed as to the disposition of the tidal gates of the Meuse. When these were opened the water fell, thus permitting the Germans to cross the river. The Namur forts were helpless against the new big guns of the Germans. Four forts were utterly destroyed, with every man of their garrisons.

WARREN TELLS OF RHEIMS.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 4.—The report of Whitney Warren, the American architect, on the condition of the Rheims Cathedral was read today officially at a session of the Academy of Fine Arts.

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Launching of La Gasconne Attended by Minister of Marine.

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LORENT, France, Oct. 4.—M. Augagneur, Minister of Marine, has returned to Bordeaux after attending the launching of the new battleship La Gasconne of 25,000 tons. He was the guest of honor at a dinner given by Admiral Perrin and visited the wounded at the military hospital.

FOOTBALL ON BATTLE LINE.

British Troops Play Games During Lull in Fighting.

London, Oct. 4.—A despatch from the battlefield in France says there has been more or less calm on the western front since yesterday afternoon. The French soldiers were surprised today to see their English comrades retire some distance to the rear and begin lively games of football.

Notwithstanding the fact that some of the British battalions lost a large proportion of their numbers in the severe battles of last week the rest of the men for the sport was unabated. There was a regular match between two battalions, on the result of which there was considerable betting.

BELGIANS DENY FALL OF FORTS AT ANTWERP

Say German Attacks Have Failed to Destroy Defences.

NEW ASSAULT REPULSED.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

ANTWERP, October 4 (Evening). The situation is practically unchanged. Artillery firing between the forts and the Germans continued throughout the day.

It is stated that one of the big German siege guns was lost by the flooding of the country around Waelhem.

GERMANS REPULSED.

Belgium Artillery Defeats Attempt to Bridge the River Nethe.

London, October 4.

The Germans attacking Antwerp attempted to cross the River Nethe to-day and were repulsed by splendidly directed fire of the Belgian artillery.

In taking a new position on the Nethe yesterday the Belgians destroyed all bridges over that small tidal river. They threw up strong intrenchments in positions not commanded by the guns of Fort Wavre-St. Catherine.

Early this morning aviators reported that the Germans were massing a large force toward the southeast. Shortly afterward a cable bulletin used by the Belgians to control artillery fire was made the target of German aerial guns.

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DUKE PROTECTED FRENCHMAN'S HOME

"Germans Are Not Barbarians," Said Commander in Note Left at Pierrefonds.

MOCK FUNERAL IN VILLAGE.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, October 4.

The Maritz relates how Ulrich sought out the house of M. Clement-Bayard, the aeroplane and automobile manufacturer at Pierrefonds, to burn it because M. Clement-Bayard was recently arrested as a spy in Germany, but was released. But the villagers, the Maritz says, misdirected the Germans to another chateau, which the German horsemen burned.

The Maritz continues:

"The Duke of Schleswig-Holstein arrived and established his headquarters in M. Clement-Bayard's house. When he went away he left a courteous note remarking that the property was undamaged and apologizing for requesting one of M. Clement-Bayard's automobiles, for which he left a receipt. The Duke in his note made allusion to the advertisement thereby given to the Clement-Bayard make of automobiles and concluded his note, 'You see, Germans are not the barbarians, as are accused of being.'"

The Journal reports that brutal, torturing treatment has been accorded to the citizens of the village of Coulmiers. It says:

"They were subjected to foul language and insults from Gen. von Kluck and witnessed a mock funeral scene in preparation for the execution of the hostages for their failure to raise 12,000 francs (\$2,400) in the deserted village in six hours, with three fatal shots, which were fired at the village of Coulmiers. It says:

"The French attacked in the night and the Germans fled."

FRANCE ANSWERS CHARGE.

Says German Wounded Are Treated as Well as French.

Washington, Oct. 4.—The French Embassy in this country made public the following official despatch:

"In an attempt to explain away the ruthless destruction of Orches, a statement has been published according to which twenty German wounded found in a field hospital which had been moved forth by the Bavarians, then abandoned by them, had had their noses and ears cut off by French franc-tireurs."

"The answer is this—First, that there are no franc-tireurs or irregulars at all in France, second, that the kind of men who cause the German wounded to receive exactly the same treatment as the French ones in the French hospitals and who risk their lives to save those of the German wounded harbored in the Rheims cathedral when that sanctuary was under fire by German shells are unlikely to commit atrocities."

NAVAL LOSS DUE TO SPIES.

Lord Charles Balfour Says Germans Got Information in England.

London, Oct. 4.—Admiral Lord Charles Balfour (retired), declared in a speech at Aberdeen yesterday that German spies had caused the loss of the three British armored cruisers Aboukir, Cressy and Thetis, which were destroyed by a German submarine in the North Sea. Lord Charles said:

"The men who were lost were my old comrades and I was proud to serve with them. They were lost through information given